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For Immediate Release

ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT ATTORNEY AND UNITED STATES ATTORNEY REPORT WEEKLY RESULTS OF ST. LOUIS REGIONAL CEASEFIRE INITIATIVE

St. Louis, Missouri: The following represents the prosecution activities under the St. Louis Regional Ceasefire Initiative, a component of the Bush Administration's Project Safe Neighborhoods Program, United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway and St. Louis Circuit Attorney Jennifer Joyce announced today.

These cases are the result of the collaborative efforts of federal and local law enforcement including the U.S. Attorney's Office, the St. Louis City Circuit Attorney's Office, the St. Louis County Prosecutor's Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the U.S. Marshal's Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and the St. Louis County Police Department.

This week's results of Project Safe Neighborhood/Ceasefire are as follows:

ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE:

Irving Dethrow, 16, of the 4900 block of Suburban was sentenced to serve ten years in the Missouri Department of Corrections on September 14, 2005. Dethrow pled guilty to robbery first degree, armed criminal action, and unlawful use of a weapon before Judge Robert Dierker. Dethrow must serve at least 85% of his sentence before he is eligible for parole.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

STEVEN HALTER, 26, of the 300 block of Aspen, St. Louis, was sentenced to 180 months in prison on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

CARLOS RUTHERFORD, 24, of the 4500 block of Ashland, St. Louis, was sentenced to 60 months in prison on two felony counts of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

JAMES ANTONIO SMITH, 26, of the 4200 block of Labadie, St. Louis, 63115, was sentenced to 30 months in prison on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

STANFORD DICKENS, 46, of the 4700 block of McMillan, St. Louis, was sentenced to 16 months in prison on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

TERRELL GUNN, 26, of the 4000 block of Labadie, St. Louis, 63107, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. Gunn now faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000. Sentencing has been set for December 9, 2005.

VERNELL HAMILTON, 33, of the 1400 block of Collins, Richmond Heights, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. Hamilton now faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000. Sentencing has been set for December 9, 2005.

KYRIS BLACK, 28, of the 3800 block of Nebraska, St. Louis, was indicted by a federal grand jury on one felony count of possession with intent to distribute more than 5 grams of cocaine base (crack); one felony count of felon in possession of a firearm and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime; one felony count of possession of marijuana; and one felony count of cocaine. If convicted, Black faces a minimum penalty of 17 years and no more than 40 years in prison and/or a fine of \$2,252,000.

VAN LAMONT LOVE, JR., 20, 2600 block of Shenandoah, St. Louis, 63104, was indicted by a federal grand jury on one felony count of being an unlawful user of a controlled substance in possession of a firearm. If convicted, Love faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000.

The charges set forth in an indictment are merely accusations, and each defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.